

SITUATION REPORT NO. 15
INCIDENT NO. 2002-007
DATE: March 1, 2002 TIME: 4:30 p.m.

TO: Governor John Hoeven
State Capitol
Bismarck, N.D. 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Minot Train Derailment of January 18, 2002 – A large plume, resulting from the release of 300,000 pounds of anhydrous ammonia, enveloped significant portions of the Minot area for several hours when a 112-car train derailed.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: One person was killed and approximately 1,605 people have sought treatment.
3. DAMAGES: No change from previous reports.
4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: To date, 305 people have sought crisis counseling provided through the American Red Cross.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: As of March 1, a contracting firm for Canadian Pacific Railway has scheduled and completed 266 home air quality assessments.

Approximately 69,539 tons of soil have been removed. Soil tests indicated several "hot spots" exist on the north and south sides of the railroad track. Excavation has been temporarily halted because the saturated soil freezes in truck boxes while enroute to the landfill.

The Ward County Emergency Manager reported that well water cleanup and decontamination has been completed, and cleanup of homes has begun. Air sampling will take place before a home is cleaned and, upon completion, for a two-day period.

Officials representing First District Health Unit, N.D. Department of Health and Canadian Pacific Railway will meet March 4 with evacuated residents of Tierricita Vallejo subdivision to discuss environmental issues and the timetable for a permanent return to their homes. Ward County Sheriff's deputies continue to patrol the subdivision.

The Ward County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will remain open through March 8.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from the previous reports.
9. OTHER: Appropriate state, local and private entity emergency operations plans and procedures have been implemented.

Situation Reports published by North Dakota Emergency Management are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

Douglas C. Friez, State Director